

Appl. No. 09/822,639
Response to Office Action
Reply to Office Action of August 11, 2003

REMARKS

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The rejection of Claims 1-2 under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, is respectfully traversed. The structure "a pair of opposite ends bounding said outer cylindrical surface" is shown in Fig. 4, which is mentioned at paragraph [0016] of the specification. The recited structure simply refers to the opposite ends of the cylindrical body of the sharpening burr. An annotated copy of Fig. 4 is provided herewith to assist in understanding.

The limitation "wherein each of said plurality of teeth traverses an axial distance substantially equal to an axial distance between said pair of opposite ends bounding said outer cylindrical surface" is also shown in Fig. 4. Simply stated, this limitation requires that each tooth extend substantially from one end of the cylindrical body to the other. This is also indicated in annotated Fig. 4.

As stated in paragraph [0016], "...it will be understood that the burr teeth [of Figs. 6A through 11C] are formed on an outer surface of a cylindrical body just as pointed-triangular teeth 22 are formed on an outer surface of prior art burr 20 depicted in Fig. 4."

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejection -35 U.S.C. § 102

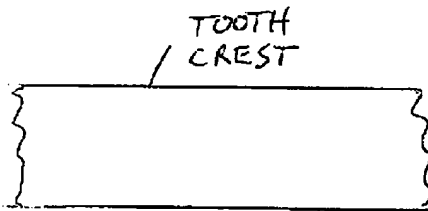
The rejection of Claims 1-2 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by US 5453041 (Oliver) is respectfully traversed.

Oliver discloses a cutting tool having a plurality of teeth 16 arranged in rows 46, wherein each tooth 16 of any row 46 is separated from an adjacent tooth within the same row by a tooth space d about equal to or greater than the tooth crest length a to allow chips generated during cutting to be discharged or dislodged from the cutting tool. This prevents clogging. See column 6, lines 46-54 and Figs. 1 and 11-14.

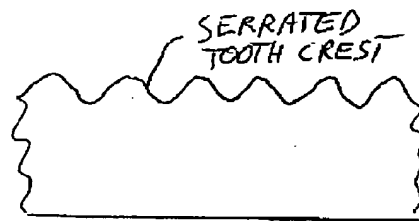
By contrast, the present invention of Claims 1-2 is a sharpening burr for dressing the grinding surface of a pulpstone. The present invention is a shaping or forming tool, as opposed to a cutting tool. Consequently, each tooth extends substantially from one end of the cylindrical burr to the other. This differs from the cutting tool of Oliver, which provides many short teeth arranged in a given row that are separated by gaps or spaces d . A purpose of Applicant's Preliminary Amendment filed April 23, 2003 was to amend Claim 1 to positively recite that the teeth of the sharpening burr extend substantially from one end of the burr to the other, thus distinguishing over Oliver. It is hoped that the explanation provided above regarding the language added to Claim 1 helps the Examiner's understanding, and that the difference over Oliver is recognized.

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Claim 25 corresponds to an embodiment as shown in Fig. 9 of the present application, wherein the teeth have a lead angle relative to the burr's axis of rotation that varies with axial position along the cylindrical body of the burr. Oliver shows, in Fig. 4 thereof, a tooth having a serrated surface 42. The sketches below demonstrate the difference between the subject matter of Claim 25 and the teaching of Oliver. Sketches 1A and 1B show a tooth of Claim 25 and a serrated tooth of Oliver, respectively, in side elevation view; Sketches 2A and 2B show a tooth of Claim 25 and a serrated tooth of Oliver, respectively, in top plan view.



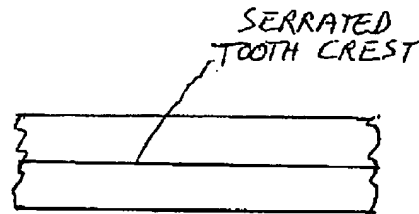
Sketch 1A - Claim 25 Side Elevation



Sketch 1B - Oliver Side Elevation



Sketch 1A - Claim 25 Top Plan



Sketch 1B - Oliver Top Plan

As will be appreciated from the sketches above, in the serrated tooth of Oliver, it is the height of the tooth and not the lead angle that changes with axial position. Thus, the subject matter of Claim 25 is neither taught nor suggested by Oliver. Therefore, allowance of Claim 25 is earnestly sought.

Allowable Subject Matter

The indication that Claims 26 and 27 are directed to allowable subject matter is acknowledged with thanks. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of parent Claim 25, which is thought to be allowable, and thus Claims 26 and 27 have not been rewritten in independent form at this time.

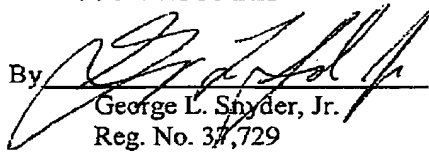
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Conclusion

The present application is thought to be in a condition for allowance. Therefore, it is respectfully asked that a Notice of Allowance be issued in this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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DATED: November 3, 2003

Enclosure

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